certain equipments before the end of the financial year of 1995-96.

Outstanding Dues against Ex-MPs

2568. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL continues to issue bills for rental in respect of telephones which have been disconnected on the grounds of non-payment of dues; and if so, the reasons therefor and the details of rules under which such bills are issued to the subscribers; and

(b) the details of the outstanding dues of more than Rs. 50,000/- against the Ex-Members of Parliament as on 28th February, 1997 and the steps taken to recover these dues?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir. The bills for rental are sent even after disconnection, since the rental for the intervening period *i.e.* from the date of disconnection to the date of restoration is payable by the subscriber as per Rule 443 of the Indian Telegraph Rules. In case the telephone is permanently closed the rental recovered beyond the date of disconnection is refunded.

(b) The details are given in statement *(see* below). Notices are issued and regular follow up action for recovery is being followed as per the prescribed procedure.

Statement

Details of outstanding dues of more than Rs. 50,000/- against Ex-Members of Parliament as on 28.2.97

Sl.	Particular	No. of MPs.	Amount Rs.
1.	VII & VIII Lok Sabha	42	6132363
2.	IX Lok Sabha	30	3169971
3.	X Lok Sabha	190	52680421
4.	Rajya Sabha	58	12514317
	Total	320	74497072

Delay in Telephone Connections in Rourkela Due to Offical Apathy

2569. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the waiting list of General Category registrants for telephones in Rourkela, Orissa;

(b) whether it is a fact that persons since August, 1996 have not got any telephone connections;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to clear the waiting list; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the corrupt/erring officials/ staff who demand bribes for releasing telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) The details of the waiting list of general category

registrants for telephones in the city of Rourkela, Orissa as on 28.2.97 are given below:—

E-10B exchange Rourkela Steel Plant	=	564
RLU exchange Rourkela Township	=	1391
Total		1955

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The reeasons for the delay are due to non-availability of spare exchange capacity.

(d) It is proposed to expand 7000 lines of E-10B exchange to 8000 lines and 5000 lines of RLU exchange to 7000 lines in Steel Township area of Rourkela, Orissa. Waiting list will be cleared on expandig the exchange capacity and obtaining store materials. It is expected to clear the present waiting list in general category of E-10B exchange in June 1997 and that of RLU exchange in July 1997.

(e) No such case has come to the notice of Department. Proper action will be taken as per departmental norms as and when noticed.

महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड में वेतनमानों को अपनाये जाने में विलम्ब

2570. **श्री नागमणि:**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड की स्थापना के दस वर्ष बाद भी इसमें कार्यरत बहुत से कर्मचारियों को महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड के नियमानुसार वेतनमान नहीं दिए गए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) निगम के नियमानुसार वेतनमानों पर विचार करने संबंधी समिति का गठन कब किया गया था और इस समिति के सदस्यों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान इस समिति द्वारा कितनी बैठकें की गयी हैं और इन बैठकों में क्या अन्तिम निर्णय लिया गया है?

संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा) (क) जी हां।

(ख) महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड के कर्मचारियों में दो श्रेणियों के कर्मचारी शामिल हैं;

(1) सीधे भर्ती किए गए कर्मचारी,

(2) प्रतिनियुक्ति पर माने गए सरकारी कर्मचारी महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड के सीधे भर्ती किए गए कर्मचारियों को औद्योगिक वेतनमान स्वीकृत करने हेतु आदेश पहले ही जारी किए जा चुके हैं।

वे सरकारी कर्मचारी, जो प्रतिनियुक्ति पर माने गए हैं, उन्हें सरकारी वेतनमान पर वेतन प्राप्त हो रहा है क्योंकि, उन्हें महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड में शामिल किए जाने के मामले पर अभी निर्णय नहीं हुआ है।

(ग) कोई समिति गठित नहीं की गई है।

(घ) अपरोक्त "ग" के देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Radial Distance of Nalanda Telephone Exchange

2571. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 424 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th February, 1997 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the radial distance of village Gajrajbigha from both Nalanda and Dumarawan is the same;

(b) if so, the reasons for putting the said village under Dumarawan and not under Nalanda Telephone Exchange;

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in negative, whether any field survey has been undertaken to find out the exact distance of the village from both the Exchanges;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Village Gajrajbigha is situated within 5 kms radial distance of Dumarawan exchange and is more than 5 kms radial distance of Nalanda. Under the existing rules, all localities situated within 5 kms radial distance of an exchange are included in the local area of